

APPROPRIATION FOR PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING,

At the request of the Secretary of the Interior, additional estimates of appropriations required for the public lands service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894.

OCTOBER 9, 1893.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *October 6, 1893.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, in compliance with the requests of the Secretary of the Interior of September 23 and October 2, 1893, supplemental and additional estimates of appropriations required for the public lands service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, as follows:

Salaries and commissions of registers and receivers.....	\$50,000
Contingent expenses of land offices.....	50,000
Protecting public lands, timber, etc	80,000
	180,000

Respectfully yours,

J. G. CARLISLE,
Secretary.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, August 18, 1893.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith supplemental estimates of appropriations required for the public lands service for the current fiscal year submitted by the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

As the appropriations already made for the objects set forth in the estimates for the fiscal year 1894 seem to be wholly inadequate for the service, and a limitation to said amounts will seriously interfere with the disposal of the public lands, the estimates are approved and the early and favorable consideration of Congress thereon is solicited.

Very respectfully,

HOKE SMITH,
Secretary.

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

APPROPRIATION FOR PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., August 7, 1893.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith (in duplicate) supplemental estimates of appropriations required for the public land service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, and request that they be submitted to Congress, through the honorable Secretary of the Treasury, as soon as practicable, viz:

For salaries and commissions of registers and receivers of district land offices.....	\$50,000
For clerk hire, rent, and other incidental expenses of the district land offices.....	50,000
For depredation on public timber, protecting public lands, and settlement of claims for swamp lands and swamp-land indemnity.....	80,000

The necessity for an increased appropriation for the above purposes is set forth in the explanatory notes embodied in the estimates submitted herewith.

Very respectfully,

S. W. LAMOREUX,
Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, September 23, 1893.

SIR: Referring to Interior Department letter dated August 18, 1893, inclosing certain supplemental estimates for the current fiscal year, submitted by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, I have the honor to request that the one relating to the following appropriations be transmitted to Congress as early as practicable:

Salaries and commissions of registers and receivers.....	\$50,000
Clerk hire, rent, etc., of district land offices.....	50,000
Depredations on public timber, protecting public lands, etc.....	80,000

Very respectfully,

WM. H. SIMS,
Acting Secretary.

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., October 2, 1893.

SIR: I have the honor to state that the appropriation for the current fiscal year for the salaries and commissions of local land officers and the incidental expenses of the offices were below the actual and necessary requirements of the service, and although, as provided in the sundry civil appropriation act, a consolidation of local land offices has been approved, and is now being carried into effect, to endeavor to bring the expenses within the sum appropriated, it has been found that the extraordinary expense attendant upon the opening of four new land offices in the Cherokee Outlet lands, for which no provision was made, will render a further appropriation absolutely necessary, and a supplemental estimate for \$50,000 under each of the items was prepared in this office, and I understand has been forwarded through you to the honorable Secretary of the Treasury.

I am informed that the Treasury officials decline to forward this supplemental estimate to Congress, unless especially requested by you, and as the urgency is great and imperative, I have the honor to suggest that you make request to the Secretary of the Treasury that the said estimate be at once transmitted to Congress.

Very respectfully,

EDWD. BOWERS,
Acting Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, *October 3, 1893.*

Respectfully referred to the honorable Secretary of the Treasury, with the request that the estimates within referred to be forwarded to Congress at the earliest practicable moment.

HOKE SMITH,
Secretary.

Estimates of supplemental appropriations required for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, by the General Land Office.

General object (title of appropriation), detailed objects of expenditure, and explanations.	Total amount to be appropriated under each head of appropriation.	Amount appropriated for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 1894.
INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.		
Collecting the revenue from public lands:		
Salaries and commissions of registers and receivers:		
For salaries and commissions of registers and receivers of district land offices, at not exceeding \$3,000 per annum each (R. S., p. 392, secs. 2237, 2238; R. S., p. 393, sec. 2240. March 3, 1893, vol. 27, p. 591, sec. 1)	\$50,000	\$520,000
NOTE.—The amount appropriated for salaries and commissions of registers and receivers for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, viz. \$520,000, is wholly inadequate for the service, and a limitation of the appropriation to that amount will seriously interfere with the disposal of the public lands, and result in a great disadvantage, inconvenience, and expense to the settlers. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, the compensation earned by registers and receivers amounted to about \$560,000, while the entire appropriation therefor was but \$550,000, leaving a deficiency of about \$10,000 to be provided for the fiscal year 1893. The necessary creation at an early date of new land offices in the Territory of Oklahoma, for the disposal of lands opened to settlement under the act of March 3, 1893, will necessitate an increased appropriation for this year over that for 1893, and the amount asked for herein, viz. \$50,000, with the \$520,000 already appropriated, will be necessary for the service.		
Contingent expenses of land offices:		
For clerk hire, rent, and other incidental expenses of the district land offices (March 3, 1893, vol. 27, p. 591, sec. 1)	50,000.00	150,000.00
NOTE.—Owing to the insufficient appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, viz. \$150,000, this office is now compelled to refuse many applications from the local land officers for allowances of clerk hire, office rent, binding plat books, and other necessary expenses for the running of their offices in very many cases where the public business absolutely requires such allowance. In order to be enabled to authorize clerk hire and other necessary expenses attending the running of the local offices, and to provide for the necessary expenses attending the creation at an early date of new land offices in the Territory of Oklahoma (as provided in the act of March 3, 1893), such as building of land offices, clerk hire, furniture, safes, typewriters, and the expenses pertaining to the detail of clerks to assist in opening up the business in said offices, and many other incidental expenses chargeable to this appropriation, the amount asked for herein will be necessary.		

APPROPRIATION FOR PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE.

Estimates of supplemental appropriations required for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, by the General Land Office—Continued.

General object (title of appropriation), detailed objects of expenditure, and explanations.	Total amount to be appropriated under each head of appropriation.	Amount appropriated for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 1894.
INTERIOR DEPARTMENT—continued.		
Collecting the revenue from the public land office—Continued: Depredations on public timber, protecting public lands, and settlement of claims for swamp lands and swamp-land indemnity—		
To meet expenses of protecting timber on public lands and for the more efficient execution of the law and rules relating to the cutting thereof; of protecting public lands from illegal and fraudulent entry or appropriation, and of adjusting claims for swamp lands and indemnity for swamp lands. <i>Provided</i> , That agents and others employed under this appropriation shall be allowed per diem, subject to such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe, in lieu of subsistence, at a rate not exceeding \$3 per day each and actual necessary expenses for transportation. March 3, 1893, Vol. 27, 591, sec. 1.	\$80,000.00	\$40,000.00
NOTE.—The present appropriation is entirely inadequate to accomplish the purpose contemplated in the act. The appropriations for this purpose, including deficiency appropriations, have for the past six years been as follows: 1888, \$195,000; 1889, \$195,000; 1890, \$232,462.15; 1891, \$260,000; 1892, \$240,000; 1893, \$120,000; while for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, it is only \$40,000. The latter appropriation of \$40,000 will admit of the constant employment of not to exceed 14 special agents to protect the Government's interests during the fiscal year 1894 over the vast domain covered by the twenty-seven (27) public-land States, Territories, and districts; or one agent to every two States and Territories. The duties of these agents are to investigate and report upon cases of the unlawful cutting and removal of the public timber (in some of the States and Territories amounting to many millions of feet each year), to investigate and report upon applications for permits to cut public timber under the act of Mar. 3, 1891 (26 Stats., 1093), and to examine the timbered areas with a view to the selection of such tracts as may seem desirable and necessary to embrace in forest reservations provided for in section 24 of the act of Mar. 3, 1891 (26 Stats., 1095); also to investigate and report upon attempted fraudulent and illegal acquisition of public lands, and to make personal examination and report as to the character of lands selected by the public-land States as swamp, or appropriated alleged swamp lands, for which the States apply for other public lands as indemnity. For the purpose contemplated in this appropriation the following estimated force of special agents is imperatively necessary for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, viz: On timber depredations and applications for timber permits, 10; on forest reservations, 12; on fraudulent land entries, etc., 15; on swamp lands, 3; total, 40. At the lowest possible estimate of \$3,000 each per year to cover salary, per diem, transportation, and all other expenses for necessary assistants, etc., \$120,000; appropriation, \$40,000; difference, \$80,000.		
Total	180,000.00	710,000.00